(c) steps taken by Government to prevent the said disease in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Government are aware of the news report in question. There was a serious enteritis epidemic in the Valley resulting in 150 deaths in the Districts of Baramula, Budgam, Kupwara, Anantnag, Pulwama and Srinagar.

(c) The Government of Jammu and Kashmir immediately sprang in action and drew up a coordinated plan of action and took various measures, such as augmenting drugs and medical supplies (including air lifting of medical supplies from Delhi), conducting laboratory and epidemiological investigations, testing samples of water, sending special teams of doctors, etc. Government of India also deputed a medical team from NICD. All these measures and regular surveillance at District level brought the disease under control.

Hiring of Home Guards by Delhi Traders

2323. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in the Times of India dated the 9th October, 1994 captioned "Delhi Traders hire Home Guards";

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Delhi Police have reported that the Sarva Vyapar Mandal, one of the two trader associations in Chandni Chowk has hired 12 Home Guard personnel on payment of Rs. 50/- per day directly from Delhi Home Guards. For this facility, the Sarva Vyapar Mandal charges Rs. 30/- from every member of the association. These Home Guards have been divided into six groups to patrol in the market from Jain Temple to Fatehpuri Mosque from 11.00AM to 7PM. Each team is accompanied by an armed Delhi Police Constable to provide fire power, if required.

(c) The main purpose of this scheme is to deal with any emergency arising out of crime and to keep the governments clear of encroachment and to regulate traffic in the congested market area.

(d) Chandni Chowk is an extremely crowded commercial area and the home guards have been hired by the Traders Asosciation to ensure greater uniform presence in the area which the local police cannot do because of the constraints on police power and other responsibility of the police.

Formula to Resolve Uttarakhand Agitation

2324. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have worked out any formula to resolve the Uttarakhand agitation;

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether Govenment propose to resolve the issue amicably; and

(d) if so, the further reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. M. SAYEED): (a) to (d) Sincere efforts are on to find a solution to the Uttarakhand issue. As this is a sensitive and delicate issue, patience, tact and farsightedness is necessary on the part of all parties involved. However, Government is not contemplating reorganisation of the present set up of States.

महिलाओं पर किए गए अत्याचारों के संबंध में शिकायत

2325. **श्रीमती आनन्दी बेन जेठाभाई पटेल:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को उत्तर प्रदेश में महिलाओं पर किए जा रहे अत्याचारों के संबंध में उत्तर-प्रदेश अनुसूचित जाति और जनजाति विकास परिषद के अध्यक्ष से कोई शिकायत मिली है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा इस शिकायत पर क्या कार्रवाही की जा रही है?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० एम० सईद): (क) जी नहीं, श्रीमान् ।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Ransom Paid to Kidnappers

2326. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of kidnapping reported each month during the last four months in Delhi;